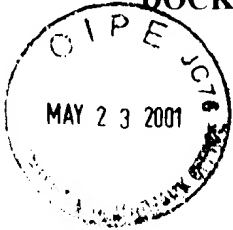


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RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP: 1635

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Bennett et al.

Serial No.: **09/315,292**

Group Art Unit: **1635**

Filed: **May 20, 1999**

Examiner: **M. Shibuya**

For: **COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS FOR THE PULMONARY DELIVERY
OF NUCLEIC ACIDS**

I, **Michael P. Straher**, Registration No. **38,325** certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

On *May 21, 2001*

Michael P. Straher

Michael P. Straher, Reg. No. 38,325

Box AF
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

This is in response to the Final Office Action mailed on January 19, 2001, in connection with the above-identified patent application. A petition for a one-month extension of time and the appropriate fee accompany this response. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections in light of the following.